

# Majority Vote on GIRs Isn't Good Enough at Special Faculty Mtg.

By **Natasha Plotkin**  
NEWS EDITOR

The faculty defeated a motion to revise the General Institute Requirements on Wednesday. The vote, 81 to 69 in favor of the motion, lacked the three-fifths majority required to amend the rules and regulations of the faculty, which govern the current GIRs.

Due to an error in parliamentary procedure, faculty who voted on the motion were informed that it had carried by simple majority and therefore believed it had received the approval it needed to be enacted. Only immediately after the meeting, when physics professor Thomas J. Greytak '63 raised the possibility of a procedural error, did Faculty Chair and Professor Bishwapriya Sanyal and the other faculty officers realize a three-fifths majority was needed.

Most of the opposition to the motion centered around changes with the

science, math, and engineering core. The plan would have altered the SME core by allowing for the introduction of alternative varieties of subjects which would satisfy the physics, math, biology, and chemistry requirements, and by creating a new committee to govern the content of these classes.

It also would have simplified the HASS requirement by replacing the HASS-D system with a three-category distribution requirement, an idea that appeared to receive widespread support from faculty and students.

The motion also detailed the development of pilot versions of new classes in elements of design, along with several focused HASS courses targeted at freshmen. These experimental classes would have been evaluated for possible incorporation into the GIRs after a two-year trial period.

Faculty members were informed

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JESSICA LIN—THE TECH

Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Patrick H. Winston '65 gives his annual talk, "How To Speak," to a packed audience in 6-120 on Friday, Jan. 30.

# ATO Departs MacGregor, Repairs To Their House Not Yet Finished

By **Pearle Lipinski**  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The Alpha Tau Omega house, damaged last summer from a pipe leak, has completed repairs and is undergoing inspections. ATO plans to move into the house in late March to early April, pending housing approval by the Cambridge Licensing Commission.

ATO plans to present to the CLC for a housing license in mid-March.

## In Short

¶ **The online degree applications** for all students planning on graduating in June must be completed by today. Applications are available at <http://student.mit.edu>.

¶ **Tuition and financial aid** figures for the coming year will likely be announced within the next few weeks. At December's faculty meeting, faculty were told tuition would increase by 4.5% for the 2009–10 school year.

Send news information and tips to [news@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:news@the-tech.mit.edu).

The CLC hears cases twice monthly, and if ATO is granted a housing license, they would be eligible to move back into the house as soon as the decision is made.

Most of the ATO brothers were housed two per room in MacGregor House suite lounges for the duration of the repairs. They began to move out of the lounges earlier this week and plan to complete moving out today. They were placed in available rooms in different dorms around campus, including Next House, New House, MacGregor, Burton Connor, East Campus, and Senior House.

ATO members living in MacGregor first semester were

charged the price of a double. The first installment of funds, approximately \$4000, went to the Housemaster's Account and were then distributed to the affected entries. The second installment, approximately \$32,000, will likely be dispersed partly to MacGregor as a whole and partly to the affected entries, said Sarah Scott '09, MacGregor treasurer.

ATO brothers living elsewhere — including Baker House and other independent living groups — were also billed accordingly. Members will individually be billed the cost

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## Where's the Beef Curry?

According to one of its owners, the popular Goosebeary's food truck will return to its familiar location next to MIT Medical next week, ending an approximately 4-week hiatus. Members of the MIT community were baffled by the disappearance.

According to owner Loc Vo, the truck was taken out of commission in early January to upgrade the equipment in the kitchen that produces the food and the truck itself. The period was chosen because it is one of the slowest of the year in terms of sales. Vo claimed that this is the first time that the truck had taken a planned pause in its business since its founding in 1991. Goosebeary's was closed for a few days in 2001 after its parent restaurant at the time, Poppa & Goose, was shut down for health code violations.

Members of the MIT community were surprised by the truck's absence. According to Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin, the Dining Office received around a dozen calls from those concerned about the truck. The calls came from students, faculty, and staff.

Employees from food trucks nearby said that they had seen slightly increased sales after Goosebeary's closed for renovations. However, they were still seeing sales decreases of around 30 to 40 percent from the same period last year, before they were displaced from their locations outside Building 68 by construction on the Koch Institute.

John M. Chapin, visiting scientist at MIT who also works at a start-up near the area, said that Goosebeary's was a "perennial favorite" at the office. He thought that the absence was planned only for IAP and became concerned after the truck did not reappear in the beginning of the term. When informed that the truck would be returning, Chapin remarked, "Great!"

—Nick Bushak



JESSICA LIN—THE TECH

The Spring Career Fair, organized by the Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society, took place in Rockwell Cage on Tuesday, Feb. 3. Sixty-one companies presented to recruit students for full-time jobs and internships.

# MIT Senior Bartolotta, Star Basketball Player, Plans to Play Pro Ball

By **Bill Finley**  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

At first, Jimmy Bartolotta laughed at the thought of bringing his considerable basketball skills to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, envisioning a comical scene of ball-playing nerds, the rocket scientists of tomorrow, being stomped game after game by teams filled with dumb jocks. But he wound up there anyway, where he leads his team and his conference in scoring and now wants to destroy the myth that eggheads can't play.

Bartolotta is a double major in physics and management sciences and expects to graduate in the spring with a grade point average of 4.6 out of a maximum 5.0. He would be a sure thing to land a lucrative job in business or science, but instead plans on playing professional basketball,

probably in Europe. If so, he would become the first player from M.I.T., a Division III program, to play professionally.

"Other coaches will come over to me, shake their heads and say, 'Where did you get him from?' M.I.T. coach Larry Anderson said in a telephone interview. "Others have told me he's good enough to be a first-team all-league selection in the Ivy League. It's simple: Jimmy is just a player."

A 6-4 guard, Bartolotta is averaging 27.8 points a game, best in the New England Men's and Women's Athletics Conference and third best in Division III. He has led the Engineers to a 16-5 record and its best-ever conference start at 7-1.

Anderson found Bartolotta as an All-State player at Heritage High

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# WORLD & NATION

## President Obama Revamps Bush Office on Religion

By Jeff Zeleny and Laurie Goodstein

THE NEW YORK TIMES WASHINGTON

President Obama signed an executive order on Thursday to create a revamped White House office for religion-based and neighborhood programs, expanding an initiative started by the Bush administration that provides government support — and financing — to religious and charitable organizations that deliver social services.

“No matter how much money we invest or how sensibly we design our policies, the change that Americans are looking for will not come from government alone,” Obama said. “There is a force for good greater than government.”

In announcing the expansion of the religion office, Obama did not settle the biggest question: Can religious groups that receive federal money for social service programs hire only those who share their faith?

The Bush administration said yes. But many religious groups and others that are concerned about employment discrimination and protecting the separation of church and state had pushed hard for Obama to repeal the Bush policies.

Meanwhile, other religious groups were lobbying to preserve their right to use religion as a criterion in hiring. Some religious social service providers warned they might stop working with the government if they were forced to change policies.

Instead of deciding the issue, the president called on Thursday for a legal review of the policy case-by-case before determining whether religious groups can receive government money and selectively hire employees based on their religious beliefs.

Obama told an audience in Ohio last summer, “You can’t use that grant money to proselytize to the people you help and you can’t discriminate against them.”

Joshua DuBois, a 26-year-old Pentecostal minister who led religious outreach for Obama during the presidential race, will direct the new White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. DuBois said in an interview, “The president is still very much committed to clear constitutionality and legality in this program. He’s committed to nondiscrimination.”

## Britain Suspends Activities of Cultural Office in Iran

By Alan Cowell

THE NEW YORK TIMES LONDON

The British Council, a global cultural institution run by the British government, said Thursday that it had been forced to suspend its activities in Iran because of what it called “unacceptable” intimidation and harassment of its staff in Tehran.

That included locally hired staff members’ being summoned for interviews at the Iranian president’s office, where “it was suggested to them that they should resign from their posts with the British Council,” according to a statement by the group.

There was no immediate response from the Iranian authorities. The announcement came a day after the U.S. women’s badminton team complained that its players had been denied visas to compete in a tournament in Tehran.

“Our athletes were very much looking forward to the event and are very disappointed that they will not be able to compete and meet new friends. Friendship through sport is a good thing that should be respected and cherished,” the team said in a statement on its Web site.

The statement said the athletes had earlier been told their visas had been approved and were asked to secure them in Dubai. The Associated Press quoted an Iranian official as saying there had not been enough time to process the visas.

The Obama administration has signaled a new, if conditional, readiness for dialogue with Iran, but Tehran’s response has been ambiguous.

# Somali Pirates Get Ransom And Begin to Leave Ship

By Jeffrey Gettleman and Mohammed Ibrahim

THE NEW YORK TIMES NAIROBI, KENYA

The saga over the Ukrainian arms freighter hijacked off Somalia’s coast more than four months ago drew to a close on Thursday almost exactly the way the pirates had predicted: with the booty.

According to the pirates and maritime officials in Kenya, the ship’s owners paid \$3.2 million — in cash, dropped by parachute — and on Thursday evening the last of the heavily armed pirates made their way off the ship.

“The fact that this took so long, that’s not good,” said one of the pirates, Isse Mohammed, in a telephone interview. “But we got the cash in hand, and that’s good. That’s what we’re interested in.”

Isse added that his gang would continue “hunting ships” because “that’s our business.”

But first, Isse said, he had to escape. Ever since the Ukrainian ship was hijacked by Somali pirates in dinghies, it had been ringed by American warships determined to keep the pirates from unloading the weapons.

Isse said that the pirate leaders were divvying up the money in Xarardheere, a notorious pirate den near the ship’s anchorage, and that he and his colleagues had deputized young gunmen to stay aboard until all the pirate leaders had gotten away. Only then, he said, would the ship be released.

Late Thursday night, Viktor Nikol-sky, the captain of the ship, called the Faina, said that it was finally under the protection of the U.S. Navy and would head to Mombasa, Kenya, the Associated Press reported.

More than 100 ships have been attacked in Somalia’s pirate-infested seas in the past year, but no hijacking has attracted as much attention as this one. It stirred fears of a new epoch of piracy and precipitated an unprecedented naval response. Warships from China, India, Italy, Russia, France, the United States, Denmark, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Greece, Turkey, Britain and Germany have all joined the anti-piracy campaign.

The Ukrainians’ doomed voyage began in late August, when the Faina departed the Ukrainian port of Olytyabrsk, near the Black Sea, bound for Mombasa, on Kenya’s coast. It was a

tall, lumbering freighter, painted blue and white. Its captain was Russian and its 21 crew members were mostly Ukrainian, with two other Russians and a Latvian. Its cargo was secret. On Sept. 25, the Faina broadcast an SOS. Three small speedboats were heading straight at it fast — the typical pirate swarm.

On Sept. 26, the news broke: The Faina had been hijacked 200 miles off Somalia’s coast and its cargo, revealed reluctantly by the Kenyan government, included 33 T-72 Soviet-era tanks, 150 grenade launchers, six anti-aircraft guns and heaps of ammunition.

American officials worried that Islamist insurgents ashore could get the weapons and drastically change the dynamic in Somalia, where a weak transitional government has been trying to resist militant Islamist groups.

By Thursday night, U.S. Navy officials said no weapons had been unloaded. But witnesses ashore reported pirates removing grenade launchers. Isse said the pirates had tossed some antiaircraft guns overboard “so we can get them later.” He seemed unaware of saltwater’s corrosive effects.

# Caterpillars Infest West Africa, Menacing Crops

By Lydia Polgreen

THE NEW YORK TIMES DAKAR, SENEGAL

A bizarre swarm of caterpillars is munching its way through the forests, cocoa and coffee fields of Liberia, threatening crops and forcing thousands to leave their homes because the bugs have contaminated the drinking water from rivers and lakes.

Entomologists have identified the pests as a moth usually found in the forests of West Africa, but normally not in the huge numbers that appeared early last month in Bong County, a lush northern region of Liberia that produces cash crops on large plantations, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The infestation threatens crucial crops in a patch of West Africa that includes several impoverished, war-torn countries. The caterpillars

have already been found in Guinea, and could appear in Ivory Coast, the world’s top cocoa producer, which borders the region of the outbreak in Liberia, and Sierra Leone, U.N. officials said.

The outbreak was first reported in mid-January, when the black worm-like creatures set upon farms in northern Liberia.

The caterpillars seemed to appear out of thin air, said Winfred Hammond, representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization office in Liberia. “They were eating the forest trees, vegetation around homes and crops,” he said. “It caused a lot of panic. People were fleeing their homes.”

Initially scientists thought that the caterpillars were army worms, which are hard to differentiate from the current pest when in the caterpillar form but look different when they turn into

a moth. Army worms are dreaded because they eat food crops and bury their larvae deep under the soil, which makes them tougher to attack with pesticides, U.N. officials said.

But further testing showed that the caterpillars were actually *Achaea catocaloides rena*, a species that only rarely appears in such great numbers. The caterpillars live in the forest, and their population is usually kept down by wasps that lay eggs on the moth’s cocoon and eat the caterpillars, Hammond said.

But the rains last year were unusual. Downpours as late as Christmas may have interrupted the reproduction cycle of the wasps that prey on the caterpillars, Hammond said.

The caterpillars eat the leaves of plants, and then the moths burrow into fruit, causing it to rot. When the caterpillars run out of leaves, they set upon food crops like millet and wheat.

# WEATHER

## Chilly Ring Premiere, Weekend Warm-Up

By Vince Agard

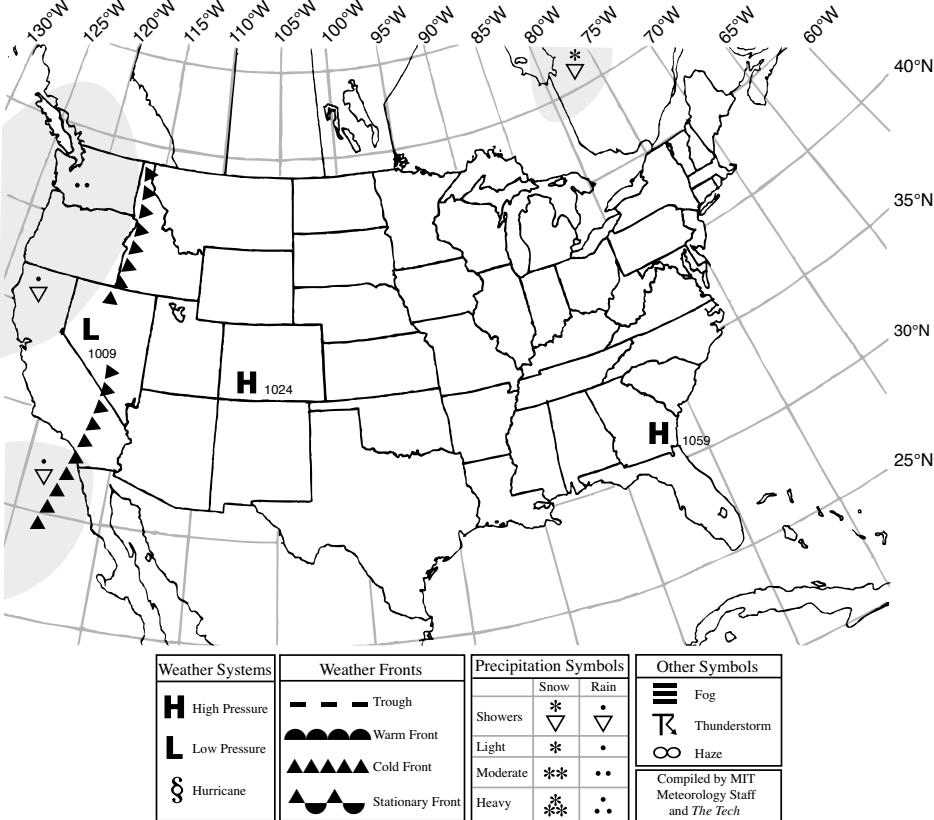
Sophomores waiting in line for the Class of 2011 Ring Premiere tonight will have to endure cold temperatures as the chilly weather the region has experienced this week continues. While continued high pressure will present clear, sunny skies, the high temperature this afternoon will reach only the mid 20s°F and proceed to fall to around 16°F overnight. However, a relative improvement in conditions can be expected over the weekend, as sunny skies will persist with temperatures rising steadily through Saturday and Sunday. Highs in the low to mid 40s°F can be expected for Saturday, while Sunday could see highs nearing 50°F. Don’t get too comfortable, however, as temperatures will drop below freezing once again when school resumes on Monday.

All in all, these temperatures constitute typical Boston weather for this time of year, as average highs are in the high 30s°F while average lows are in the low 20s°F at this point in February. However, the break from wintry precipitation should be enjoyed, as February is on average the snowiest month of the year. 31 years ago today, Boston was struck by the Blizzard of 1978, which carried hurricane-force winds and dumped over 27 inches of snow on the region, halting automobile traffic and forcing MIT to cancel classes. Don’t expect anything of that magnitude in the near future, however, as the next few days will be relatively calm.

### Extended Forecast

**Today:** Sunny, High 25°F (-4°C)  
**Tonight:** Clear, Low 16°F (-9°C)  
**Saturday:** Sunny, High 43°F (6°C)  
**Sunday:** Sunny, Highs in the high 40s°F (9°C)  
**Monday:** A chance of showers, Highs in the low 30s°F (0°C)

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, February 6, 2009



# Scientists Study Possible Link Between Dam, Quake in China

By Sharon Lafraniere  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

Nearly nine months after a devastating earthquake in Sichuan province, China, left 80,000 people dead or missing, a growing number of American and Chinese scientists are suggesting that the calamity was triggered by a 4-year-old reservoir built close to the earthquake’s geological fault line.

A Columbia University scientist who studied the quake has said that it may have been triggered by the weight of 320 million tons of water in the Zipingpu Reservoir less than a mile from a well-known major fault. His conclusions, presented to the American Geophysical Union in December, coincide with a new finding by Chinese geophysicists that the dam caused significant seismic changes before the earthquake.

Scientists emphasize that the link between dam and the failure of the fault has not been conclusively proved, and that even if the dam acted as a trigger, it would only have hastened a quake that would have occurred at some point.

Nonetheless, any suggestion that a government project played a role in one of the biggest natural disasters in recent Chinese history is likely to be politically explosive.

Questions about the Zipingpu Dam are especially delicate because China is building many major hydroelectric dams in the southwest, a region which has abundant water resources but is considered prone to earthquakes.

In a petition to the government in July, a group of environmentalists and scholars said the fact that government scientists had underestimated the risk of the May earthquake raised questions about a host of other dams built in the same valley and along five other major rivers, according to an article published by Probe International, an environmental advocacy group.

Chinese authorities have steadfastly dismissed any notion that reservoir-building in Sichuan province placed citizens at any added risk, and they have blocked some Web sites of environmental groups that suggest dangers have been overlooked.

In a December article in the Chinese magazine Science Times, two

scientists from the Chinese Academy of Sciences strongly denied that the dam played any role in the earthquake.

“The earthquake research community outside and inside China has widely accepted the notion that the May 12 Wenchuan earthquake was a huge natural disaster caused by massive crustal movement, because no reservoir triggered-quake with a magnitude eight has ever occurred in history,” said Pan Jiazheng, an expert in hydroengineering, according to a translation published by Probe International.

Scientists generally agree that a reservoir, no matter how big, cannot by itself cause an earthquake. But Leonardo Seeber, a senior scientist with the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University, said the impact of so much water could hasten an earthquake’s occurrence if geological conditions for a quake already existed. He said the best known example was a 1967 earthquake triggered by the Koyna Dam in a remote area of India, with a magnitude of about 6.5 and a death toll of about 180 people.

By Catherine Rampell  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

With the recession on the brink of becoming the longest in the postwar era, a milestone may be at hand: Women are poised to surpass men on the nation’s payrolls, taking the majority for the first time in American history.

The reason has less to do with gender equality than with where the ax is falling.

The proportion of women who are working has changed very little since the recession started. But a full 82 percent of the job losses have befallen men, who are heavily represented in distressed industries like manufacturing and construction. Women tend to be employed in areas like education and health care, which are less sensitive to economic ups and downs, and in jobs that allow more time for child care and other domestic work.

“Given how stark and concentrated the job losses are among men, and that women represented a high proportion of the labor force in the beginning of this recession, women are now bearing the burden — or the opportunity, one could say — of being breadwinners,” says Heather Boushey, a senior

economist at the Center for American Progress.

Economists have predicted before that women would one day dominate the labor force as more ventured outside the home. The number of women entering the work force slowed and even dipped during the boom years earlier this decade, though, prompting a debate about whether women truly wanted to be both breadwinners and caregivers.

Should the male-dominated layoffs of the current recession continue — and Friday’s jobs report for January may offer more insight — the debate will be moot. A deep and prolonged recession, therefore, may change not only household budgets and habits; it may also challenge longstanding gender roles.

In recessions, the percentage of families supported by women tends to rise slightly, and it is expected to do so when this year’s numbers are tallied. As of November, women held 49.1 percent of the nation’s jobs, according to nonfarm payroll data collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. By another measure, including farm workers and the self-employed, women constituted 47.1 percent of the work force.

Women may be safer in their jobs, but tend to find it harder to support a family. For one thing, they work fewer overall hours than men. Women are much more likely to be in part-time jobs without health insurance or, for that matter, unemployment insurance. Even when working in full-time jobs, women earn only 80 cents for each dollar of their male counterparts’ income, according to the government data.

“A lot of jobs that men have lost in fields like manufacturing were good union jobs with great health care plans,” says Christine Owens, executive director of the National Employment Law Project. “The jobs women have — and are supporting their families with — are not necessarily as good.”

Nasreen Mohammed, for example, works five days a week, 51 weeks a year, without sick days or health benefits.

She runs a small day care business out of her home in Milpitas, Calif., and recently expanded her services to include after-school care. The business brings in about \$30,000 annually, she says, far less than the \$150,000 her husband earned in the marketing and sales job he lost over a year ago. “It’s peanuts,” she says.

# Al-Maliki’s Party Wins in Iraq, But Will Need to Form Coalitions

By Alissa J. Rubin  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

The Dawa Party of Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki was the overwhelming winner of Iraq’s provincial elections, the first official results show. But while candidates in the slate backed by Dawa garnered the most votes of any party in nine of Iraq’s provinces, the party fell short of being able to operate without coalition-building. The initial results reflect a vast majority, but not all, of the votes.

Still, the results lifted al-Maliki’s party from a minor player among Shiite parties to one that appeared on the road to being the most powerful.

The election outcome conveyed a dual message: many Iraqis want a strong central government, rather than one where regions hold more power than the center, but they do not want all the power in the hands of one party.

“We don’t seek to rule alone or marginalize anyone,” said Hassan Sinead, a member of Parliament who is in the Dawa Party and an ally of al-Maliki. “On the contrary, we are open to the other parties, whether they

won or lost the election, because we don’t believe in the dictatorship of the regions or any other kind, because we are not dictators.”

Some politicians have voiced concerns in recent months that too much power was being concentrated in al-Maliki’s hands, and the election results suggested that Iraqis were not ready to rally around a single leader. They responded far more enthusiastically to candidates who espoused a united Iraq that is Muslim, but not overtly sectarian.

“Maliki’s message was nationalist and broad,” said Jaber Habeeb, a professor of political science at Baghdad University who is also an independent Shiite member of Parliament. “In his speeches, he concentrated on rebuilding and securing the state more than using religious messages.”

Al-Maliki’s party won a clear plurality in the large provinces of Baghdad and Basra, both places where the prime minister waged military campaigns last year to halt the activities of mostly Shiite militias.

Tensions between Arabs and Kurds, which have threatened to erupt

into violence in northern Iraq, were largely unresolved by the election. In Nineveh, the Kurds have had an overwhelming majority on the provincial council although they are a minority in the province, because most Arabs sat out the last election. This time, a new Arab nationalist party, Al Hadba, took 48.4 percent, by far the largest share of the votes. The outcome could right the imbalance in the provincial government, but it remains to be seen whether the current provincial council members will step down and allow the new council to be seated.

In neighboring Kirkuk Province, where a vote was not held, the tensions run even higher and the situation is even more uncertain. Decades of gerrymandering, ethnic cleansing and forced expulsions of Kurds under Saddam Hussein — and the intimidation of Arabs since 2003 — have made it impossible for Kirkuk’s Kurdish, Arabic, Turkmen and Christian populations to agree on who is eligible to vote. Kirkuk and the three Kurdish provinces that make up the Kurdistan region were the only four of Iraq’s 18 provinces that did not hold elections.

## A Roster of the Rich and Famous, Now Angry and Embarrassed

By Diana B. Henriques  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

There was a time — was it only two months ago? — when people would have been proud to be on a list of Bernard L. Madoff’s customers. They had made the cut, and their money was getting the Madoff touch, growing steadily and solidly in good times and bad.

There they would be, among boldfaced names from the real estate world, the sports community, the arts and the corner offices of American business.

Today that list is an exhibit in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Manhattan, part of the paperwork documenting the annihilation of Madoff’s magic and his customers’ money. The boldfaced names have become red-faced, angry and perhaps embarrassed to find themselves caught in what prosecutors say is by far the largest Ponzi scheme in modern history.

According to the criminal charges filed when he was arrested on Dec. 11, Madoff himself confessed that investors’ losses could be as high as \$50 billion, with the victims ranging from hedge funds to housekeepers. The many thousands of everyday investors who have lost all the savings entrusted to Madoff will get no comfort from knowing that they may be able to commiserate with a formidable U.S. senator, an Oscar-nominated actor, a notable Broadway producer and a respected novelist.

A family grieving its six-figure inheritance will not be any less bereft for knowing that losses may also have been suffered by the heirs of the singer and composer John Denver and the pioneering film producer Irving Thalberg.

But that probably will not stop everyone remotely interested in the disastrous Madoff scandal from taking a minute (well, maybe more than a few minutes) to troll for A-List names on the M-List.

## Peanut Supplier Banned from Federal Business

By Michael Falcone  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Agriculture Department on Thursday banned the company implicated in the nationwide contamination of peanut products from doing business with the federal government. At least eight people have died and hundreds have been sickened after eating tainted products.

The order, which affects the Peanut Corporation of America and a subsidiary, will remain in force for one year. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack also stripped the company’s chief executive of his seat on a board that advises the government on peanut quality standards.

David Shipman, an acting administrator at the Agriculture Department, said, “The actions of PCA indicate that the company lacks business integrity and business honesty, which seriously and directly hinders its ability to do business with the federal government.”

The department’s actions came on a day when senators heard testimony from health experts and a Food and Drug Administration official, who acknowledged that gaps in the food safety system had contributed to delays in catching the outbreak of salmonella in peanut butter and other products that spread to 43 states. The problem has been traced to a peanut processing facility in Blakely, Ga.

Dr. Stephen Sundlof, the director of food safety programs at the FDA, told members of the Senate Agriculture Committee that the agency’s investigation was hindered in part by the absence of laws requiring companies to report contamination at processing facilities. Sundlof said food makers were only required to tell the agency about safety issues after their products are shipped.

“That’s one of the very serious loopholes we need to plug,” said Sen. Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga.

## Sri Lanka Rejects Call for Truce

By Somini Sengupta  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW DELHI

Rejecting international calls for a cease-fire, Sri Lanka said on Thursday that it had the vestige of a rebel group cornered in a small wedge of the northeastern coast, where the group’s elusive leader was likely to be holed up in the company of thousands of civilians.

Defense Secretary Gotabaya Rajapaksa said in a telephone interview from Sri Lanka’s capital, Colombo, that government forces could swiftly seize the bastion of the rebel leader, Vellupillai Prabhakaran, and his subordinates were it not for a shield of civilians they had placed around them.

“The leaders are still there in that area, and they have that human shield,” Rajapaksa said. “Very soon when we overrun this place, we will be able to capture him.”

The military also announced the capture of the last known naval base of the rebels, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. A few days ago, it said it had captured the last of seven airstrips held by the Tamil Tigers’ crude but deadly air force, as well as a village hut that it had described as a hide-out of Prabhakaran.

There is no way to confirm any of what the government says. Journalists are not allowed anywhere near the war zone. The Tamil Tigers have not been reachable for comment.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, or ICRC, estimates that 250,000 civilians are trapped in the combat zone; the government says there are far fewer.

Whatever the number, Rajapaksa said the government would not agree to a cease-fire, as several of Sri Lanka’s backers, including the United States, have urged, to allow the civilians to evacuate. “We had so many cease-fires in the last three decades. None of these cease-fires solved the problem,” he said. “Don’t give them breathing space.”

The Tamil Tigers have been widely accused by, among others, international aid agencies, of prohibiting civilians from leaving the area, which has been bombarded by aerial attacks and artillery. One of the worst victims of the fighting was the last proper hospital in the rebel-held area, which had come under such repeated shelling over four days that the Red Cross, which helps run the hospital, had to evacuate all patients and staff and flee deeper into rebel-controlled territory.

On Thursday, Rajapaksa, the brother of President Mahinda Rajapaksa, denied that government troops would shell the hospital, but insisted that not all of its patients were civilians and that the Tamil Tigers were fighting in the vicinity. He said the Red Cross had been cautioned to evacuate the hospital into what the government had demarcated as a no-fire zone.

The agency has repeatedly warned both sides that hospitals and known civilian sites are, by definition, protected zones under international law.



# OPINION

## Screw Bipartisanship

On Health Care, Obama Should Move to the Left

Keith Yost

When it comes to health care policy, two viable economic theories are battling it out across the left-right spectrum.

On the right, the explanation put forth to explain poor outcomes in health care is something called “moral hazard.” Moral hazard is the idea that shielding a party from the consequences of a behavior induces them to act differently than if they had not been shielded. The application to health insurance markets is simple: insured individuals have little incentive to reduce their health care costs, and, as a consequence, they overuse medical services, undergoing expensive and unnecessary procedures. The moral hazard explanation, when followed to its logical conclusion, results in health care policies like John McCain’s, which would have replaced the generous tax subsidy given to employers with a correspondingly generous tax credit to individuals.

McCain would have ended the current system of health care (in which a third party, employers, covers insurance costs) and replaced it with a direct insurance market where if an individual wanted the type of insurance that would cover all their unnecessary tests and procedures, they’d end up paying for it through higher premiums. The idea was that by more directly linking people to the health costs they incur, there would be more efficient rationing of health care, costs would go down, and more effective health care would be available for everybody.

On the left, the explanation put forth to explain poor outcomes in health care is something called “adverse selection.” Adverse selection is the idea that markets fail when there is unequal information between the two sides in a transaction. The application to health insurance markets is that insurance buyers know more about their own health and habits than insurance sellers. To illustrate: suppose that there is a pathogen, called Disease X, sweeping the country. It is fatal within four weeks of the first symptoms being detected, but is easily and forever cured with a pill that costs \$10,000. The population has varying degrees of vulnerability to Disease X such that the probability of contracting it is 10% at the 1st decile, 20% and the 2nd decile, 30% at the 3rd decile, and so on. An insurance company looking to insure indi-

viduals against Disease X takes a look at the population and finds that the mean chance of contracting the disease is 50%, and so makes an offer: for \$5,000, anybody can buy insurance against Disease X—in other words, if you buy insurance and contract the disease, the insurance company will pay for the pill that cures you. Individuals know their personal risk of contracting Disease X, but the insurance company does not have this information.

If everyone were to buy the insurance being offered, the insurance company would break even and all would be well. Unfortunately, with adverse selection, this doesn’t happen. Only the people with a greater than 50% chance of contracting Disease X end up buying the insurance, and the insurance company finds that on average it pays out \$7,500 per customer instead of the predicted \$5,000. If the insurance company had offered the insurance at \$7,500 per person, their average payout would have been \$8,750, and so on. With no profitable way to provide insurance, the market is unstable and results in millions of uninsured.

The left draws a conclusion that is almost entirely opposite that of the right. Direct markets for insurance don’t work — we need set-ups like employer-provided insurance if there is to be any stable market. Employer-provided coverage, nearly the sole vehicle for health insurance in the U.S, works because it avoids the problem of adverse selection — it is very rare for people to choose their employer based solely on the health benefits. In a given company, people of different ages and different levels of health sign up for the same program, so insurance premiums can be determined by population averages without the worry that the group buying the insurance will be different from the group that the statistics came from.

The policy prescription from the left, well represented by proposals from both John Edwards and Mitt Romney (though Romney would later disavow his own system in the Republican primaries), is insurance mandates. Making everyone buy insurance prevents people from adversely selecting to not buy insurance.

A side note: on the far, far left, looks like Michael Moore trot out the old canard that big nasty companies and profit motives are to blame for the ills of the health care system. A good heuristic for sifting through policy debates is to ignore anyone who blames an out-

come on profit motives. People who rail against profit motives are easy to spot: smelling bad, shouting, and waving cardboard signs suggests a profession other than “serious economist.”

During the campaign, President Obama campaigned on a middle ground that simply doesn’t exist. Although the problems facing health care are likely a mix of both moral hazard and adverse selection, Obama’s health care plan solves neither. Instead, he seems to view the task as if health policy were no more than an advanced form of welfare, a duty borne by the rich to fund the care and medication of the poor. But health care policy is more than a wealth transfer program — it’s a positive-sum game that should fix the fundamental problems threatening health insurance markets.

There are two simple reasons why President Obama should lean towards insurance mandates.

First, insurance mandates solve the problem of adverse selection without precluding a solution to moral hazard. The managed care debates of the past few decades, with the alphabet soup arguments between HMOs versus PPOs versus etc., are a monument to the variety of options available in dealing with moral hazard and reining in costs. Insurance mandates, combined with something like prospective reimbursement, could reduce adverse selection while curbing unnecessary procedures at the same time. In contrast, a McCain-type plan would do little to prevent adverse selection, and in fact seems predicated on the assumption that adverse selection doesn’t occur.

Secondly, insurance mandates and other Democratic proposals will reduce administrative costs. A significant slice of insurance premiums go to cover actuarial costs. The billions of dollars spent in underwriting and paperwork represent a real loss to society — avoiding them would be a happy side-effect of a mandate system.

Shifting to the left on health care will be doubly painful for Obama: not only will he be reneging on his commitment to bipartisanship, he’ll also be forced to eat the words he said on the campaign, when he ridiculed Edwards and Clinton for their support of mandates. But no one ever said that doing what is right would be easy, and it certainly would be a shame if health care policy was made to suffer because a president couldn’t admit his own party was right.



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*The Tech* (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January, and monthly during the summer by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Subscriptions are \$45.00 per year (third class) and \$105.00 (first class). **POSTMASTER:** Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. **TELEPHONE:** Editorial: (617) 253-1541, Business: (617) 258-8324, Fax: (617) 258-8326. *Advertising, subscription, and typesetting rates available.* Entire contents © 2009 *The Tech*. Printed on recycled paper by Saltus Press.



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# Keeping Students’ (and Stomachs’) Interests in Mind

Maggie Liu

Two weeks ago, when a mass e-mail announced the commencement of campus shuttle service to Trader Joe’s and Whole Foods, students cheered. For the health-conscious, the gourmand, or the simple eater alike, improved accessibility to these popular grocery markets is certainly a win.

The shuttle to Trader Joe’s and Whole Foods was conceived in response to the current Star Market shuttle service — a collaboration of the GSC, Campus Dining, and Star Market. A parent looking for a healthier alternative approached MIT Medical, and a private donor generously agreed to fund the pilot program. The donor then worked with the Parking and Transportation Office, the Center for Health Promotion and Wellness at MIT

Medical, and the Development Office during this past academic school year to get the ball rolling. The new shuttle will run on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and will make stops at or near several undergraduate dorms (East Campus, McCormick, Burton-Conner, Simmons) and grad dorms (Eastgate, Tang and Westgate, Warehouse, Sidney-Pacific), serving a majority of the on-campus community. Due to funding restrictions, the shuttle will operate on a pilot basis from Jan. 23, 2009 to May 23, 2009.

I personally doubt that the establishment of the new shuttle service will result in a marked improvement of the diet of the average student’s diet. If you’re a glutton of sweets, you will fall prey to temptation regardless of which grocery store you frequent.

As I perused the baked goods section of Trader Joe’s, there were certain decadent goods that would have made Twinkie eaters blanch in fear: Dark chocolate and almond cookie crisps, Belgian biscottis dipped in chocolate with vanilla swirls, and Coconut and chocolate coated almonds. (Granted, they were organic almonds and fat-free chocolate, but the grams of sugar in the ingredient listing don’t lie.)

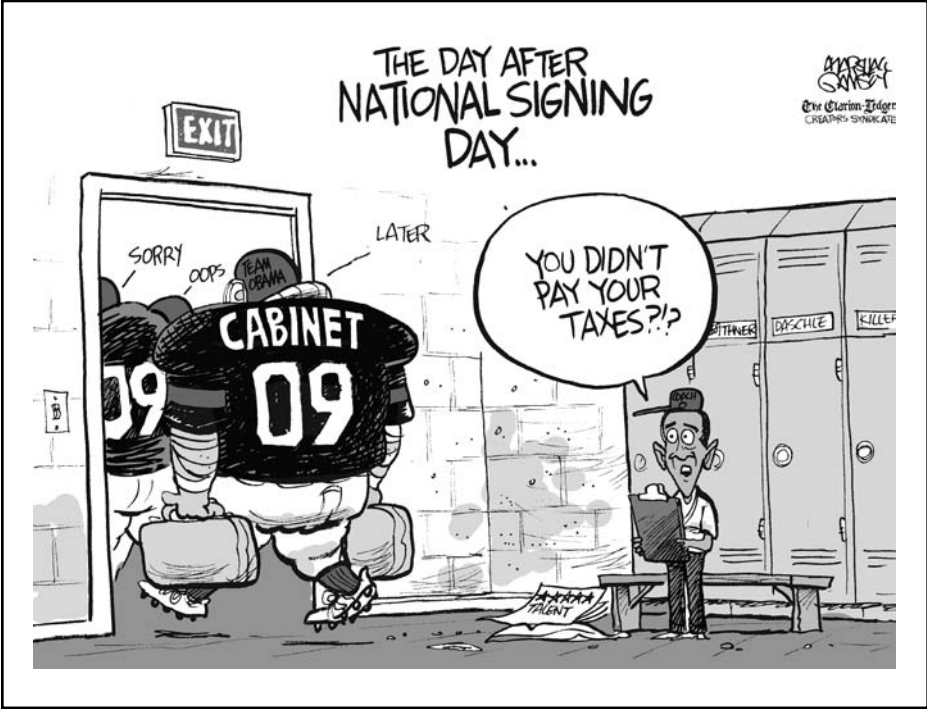
However, according to Susanna Barry — the program manager at MIT Medical responsible for the shuttle — the ultimate purpose is twofold: convenience and steering students to develop a healthier eating style. While some undergrads may not be any more inclined to cook whole meals simply because they can obtain organic ingredients, Trader Joe’s carries relatively inexpensive and healthy microwaveable meals.

Whole Foods may be better for grad students with families. They offer a wider selection of fresh produce and locally grown goods. Not only will students be exploring another dining option, they’ll be doing it while benefiting local farmers.

While some may argue that Whole Foods and Trader Joe’s aren’t far enough from campus to warrant a shuttle, additional factors — such as the ever-mild Boston weather, slick sidewalk conditions and multiple bags of heavy groceries — can combine to make the trip a daunting excursion.

A fifteen-minute bike ride may not seem too bad, but add in the wind chill factor and fifteen minutes begins to feel a lot more like fifteen hours. And that’s not even considering the trip back to campus. If one is biking, the quantity of groceries is strictly limited. In regards to walking: well, if one enjoys braving single digit temperatures, I salute them wholeheartedly.

Taking this all into consideration, a typical MIT student would probably stare glumly into his cupboard and then head to the dining hall. I believe that there is nothing fundamentally wrong with having and using MIT’s dining halls — in fact, I buy stir fry from Baker Dining at least twice a week — but being forced to always eat at the dining halls is both unfair and overly regimented. With the establishment of the shuttle program, students will now have more choices to find good, healthy food of their own selection and on their own time. Kudos to the administration for keeping the students’ interests (and those of their stomachs) in mind.



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## ARTS

## CD REVIEW

*This Album Brings Me Down... In a Good Way**Andrew Bird's Latest is Mellow, Subdued*

By S. Balaji Mani

ARTS EDITOR

*Andrew Bird**Noble Beast**Produced by Mark Nevvers**Fat Possum**January 20, 2009*

Chicago-based songwriter and indie superstar Andrew Bird garnered peculiar amounts of attention after his 2005 release of *The Mysterious Production of Eggs*. Since then a relentless schedule of gigs, a successful album and EP release, and spots at larger festivals like Chicago's Lollapalooza have driven Bird to surpass his contemporaries. Add on top of that success a writing gig at the *New York Times* and you'll wonder how Bird does it all.

Last week brought Bird's latest effort, *Noble Beast*, and the record is a definite success. *Noble Beast* was recorded in Nashville, slightly outside of Bird's comfort zone. He admits in an NPR interview that he was nearly isolated during the making of this album and actually approached all the songs by recording vocals first. Typically, Bird worked with a rhythm sec-

tion to lay down the main parts of a song before even tackling the vocals. Producer Mark Nevvers, who has worked with the likes of Calexico and Silver Jews, recorded the album in his home studio working mostly with Bird alone. Occasionally, drummer and loop engineer Martin Dosh, a long-time collaborator and friend of Bird's, would send recordings of loops to help push the songwriting process along.

The elegant opener, "Oh No," will cause any Andrew Bird fan to smile, as a sweeping string progression is followed by Bird's signature whistling.

The surreal but amusing post-chorus advises, "Let's get out of here / past the atmosphere / ... wearing nothing but a onesie and a veil." The song dynamically maintains a soft and light attitude, and another round of whistling closes the track. The first handful of songs are admittedly slow-paced, but that doesn't render them boring. "Fitz & Dizzyspells" actually

starts with a solid pulse, breaks down into a freer section, and returns to the original beat to showcase Bird's fiddle skills.

"Effigy" is a lilting, Irish-influenced tune that exposes Bird's vocals. The lyrics intensify with the harmonies sung by Kelly Hogan,

Bird's friend and an artist herself. The song addresses the dire condition of being alone and the associated fear of isolation. Bird's haunting perspective becomes apparent when he sings that "It could be you / it could be me." Loneliness is a shared fear, and Bird likens it to a character

sitting at the bar, having "fake conversations on a non-existent telephone".

While the first half of the album unfolds slowly, the second half is much more rhythmically and lyrically intense. "Not a Robot, But a Ghost" uses a combination of electronic drum samples and pseudo-handclaps to provide the backing for a sliding melody and a dirty guitar.

Wordplay is found throughout "Anonanimal" as the opening line reads: "I see a sea anemone / the enemy see a sea anemone / and that'll be the end of me." The song is just voice and strings until the 2:50 mark when a drum beat and electric guitar darken the song while simultaneously driving it forward.

Bird achieves heaviness through the urgency of his lyrical content and vocal delivery. Slower arrangements lend themselves to display the strength of Bird's voice and pizzicato violin tone. The smooth blend of violin and voice, both often doubling the same melody (beautifully so at the end of "Anonanimal"), give the songs a sophisticated and emotional feel that is absent on Bird's previous release *Armchair Apocrypha*. Singing about more general feelings and situations in our everyday world ("Natural Disaster," for example, tackles disease and sickness), Bird has achieved a rare musical triumph: making a relevant and accessible album utilizing the strengths he has developed as a songwriter and performer. With just the right mix of whistles, violin, and electronica, *Noble Beast* may be too humble a title for a record by an artist who is sure to continue making important, meaningful music.

## THEATER REVIEW

*Vietnam: In Your Face**Roundabout Theatre Puts On Stunning Performance of Rabe Classic*

By S. Balaji Mani

ARTS EDITOR

*Streamers**Roundabout Theatre**Directed by Scott Ellis**Fall & Winter Season**Laura Pels Theatre*

Last season's production of David Rabe's classic 1970s play, *Streamers*, gives new meaning to the power of theatre. Executed by the Roundabout Theatre Company at Laura Pels Theatre in New York City, the performance included a cast of seasoned actors who brought an eerie realism to the tale of young soldiers awaiting deployment to Vietnam.

The story, dated as it may be, addresses issues that remain relevant to today's discussion of social equality. The play opens with two young recruits arguing over one's attempted suicide. Immediately tensions in the army are brought to the forefront. Martin, the young

man who delivered an almost fatal cut to his own wrists, is being talked out of leaving the army by Billy, a confident and conservative Midwestern.

Martin's exit from the barracks allows Roger and Richie, two more young recruits, to enter. Roger, Richie, Billy, and their interactions within the barracks make up the entirety of the play. Roger is a black man, seemingly prim and proper, making sure that order is maintained within the small community; Richie, a flaunting, flamboyant character; is publicly toying with his own ambiguous sexuality by poking fun at himself and the other men around him.

Rabe builds up a feeling of natural human anxiety right away, within the first scene; Billy is still uneasy about living with a homosexual man and the fact that he could be on the front lines any minute.

The play is set in the 1960s. These characters represent various social ideologies during the period, and the characters' actions

represent clashing social movements. Weaving in and out of their discussions are Sergeant Rooney and Sergeant Cokes. The latter, having just returned from a mission in Vietnam, takes to drink in a jarringly frightening display of utter drunkenness, carelessness, and chauvinistic pride. While the war is an overarching structural element to the play, the character's personalities drive the message of the play. Any anti-war sentiment is an afterthought — instead, the audience focuses on what motivated these three vastly different men to join the war and how all struggle to find their simultaneous identities of man and fighter.

The Roundabout actors made me realize that theatre is not dead. In fact, it can be one of the most powerful art forms. The portrayal of these unique characters was believable and realistic, giving credibility to the story and the course of events. The play reaches a climax when Carlyle, a reactionary black man recently transferred to the base, breaks up the

social order of the barracks. His outrageous attitude at times tempts Roger, challenges Billy, and flirts with Richie's teetering homosexuality. Ato Essandoh, who played Carlyle, gave the best performance, causing the audience members to almost cringe in their seats as we watched him sway from one ideology to another, all the while fearing his military superiors.

Theatre evokes an immediacy that most other art forms cannot. The actors at Laura Pels Theatre revived an old Rabe classic with social commentary that is relevant today, even with the Vietnam War stashed away in the history books. It is neither the war nor even the time period (though one could argue that such racial and sexual tensions are mitigated in this decade) that makes this piece relevant. The conflicts within this play will exist as long as the human race lives. Using the war, Rabe cleverly comments that whenever we are driven to battle (figuratively, even), we must choose whether to survive or die.

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INTERVIEW

# From The UK to the US

## Interview with Los Campesinos!

By Charles Lin  
STAFF WRITER

In 2008, Los Campesinos! burst onto the indie rock scene with the release of their debut album, the critically acclaimed *Hold on Now, Youngster*. Their latest effort, the equally praised *We Are Beautiful, We Are Doomed* hit stores last November. The Septet from Cardiff, Wales is currently on an extended American tour that takes them to the Paradise Lounge in Boston next Friday the 13th. Singer Gareth Campesino took time to talk to *The Tech* ahead of a show in Lawrence, Kansas.

TT: Tell me about the shows. How have the fans been? Have you enjoyed the venues?

GC: Compared to the UK crowd, US audiences are a lot more prepared to enjoy themselves. In the UK people sort of stand and wait with their hands in their pockets waiting to be impressed and are a lot more skeptical, whereas in the US we've had a lot more crowd surfing, almost semblances of mosh-pits, and lots and lots of dancing and screaming and lots of cheering.

TT: Most of the band met at university in Cardiff. What were you studying?

GC: I was personally studying modern history and politics, among the rest of us there was English, journalism, history, and medicine.

TT: With blogs, MySpace, and the scrutiny that comes from being in a band, do you mind that people get such an intimate look into your lives?

GC: I don't think it's a particularly intimate look. We generally just share the nonsense that goes on, like the great ketchup incident and what different back-stages look like. I know before I was in a band, I wondered what it was like and I probably thought it was a lot more glamorous than it is. Sharing the day to day life of the band — it's drive, soundcheck, gig, get drunk, sleep in that order. It's not particularly eye opening, but it does make for slightly amusing situations every night.

TT: *Hold on Now, Youngster* made a lot of

year-end lists. What albums did you have on your year-end lists?

GC: My absolute favorite album of last year was by a band called Parenthetical Girls who we toured with for a couple of weeks on the west coast in June. They were my favorite band and when we were looking for bands to tour with we quite boldly asked if they would be up for it and they were. Their album *Entanglement* is this amazing grand chamber pop record.

TT: *We Are Beautiful, We Are Doomed* is more direct, abrasive, darker, and uneasy. What changed? Or

do you feel this is part of your evolution as a band?

GC: I agree that it's darker and I think that's testament to the fact that as musicians and as song writers we have developed a lot since *Hold on Now, Youngster* and perhaps lyrically it's a

lot more jaded and scathing and depressing and that's probably just representative of me realizing what I want to write about. There's some stuff on *Hold on Now, Youngster* that lyrically I've come to dislike a fair bit. I'm not embarrassed by it, but I wouldn't want to be judged on it.

TT: A lot of LC! songs reference the future, and often in very bleak terms. What do you think of the future?

GC: I think when the songs talk about the future they're not talking about some grand world view, I think my songwriting is very much self-centered and focused on individuals rather than the bigger picture.

I have a politics degree so I guess I should be turned on and have an opinion, but in all honesty I do have faith in people to somehow carry on blundering on through and then continue making mistakes and then continue fixing those mistakes and then make more mistakes.

TT: Your show in Boston is coming up.

GC: We've played Boston twice before and it's been great.

TT: Do you mind if we come and dance on stage with you?

GC: If you find your way on to the stage and aren't causing trouble then yes, I suppose so.

RESTAURANT REVIEW

# Good for a Romantic Date Or Monday Night Foodie Fun

## Sibling Rivalry Satisfies

By Joanne Shih

*Sibling Rivalry*  
525 Tremont St  
Boston, MA 02116  
Theatre District  
(617) 338-5338

With Valentine's Day looming around the corner, I thought I would try some restaurants that hopefully won't break the bank while still maintaining a high level of quality. Sibling Rivalry, a self-proclaimed "modern American restaurant," does just that. As you may surmise from its name, the restaurant is run by two siblings, Chefs David and Bob Kinkead, and each offers his own unique culinary creations on the menu. To add to the brotherly competition, they offer a special deal on Monday nights, two separate prix-fixe three-course menus for \$35 each. The opportunity to be a judge, Iron-Chef-style, for a night? Sounds like my type of fun.

Though my main focus is always on the edible, the atmosphere certainly added to my experience. While Sibling Rivalry's exterior is cold and oddly futuristic, with metal fixtures and purple lighting, the spacious interior welcomes you with wood panelings, an open

view of the kitchen, abstract art, and a general warmth of burnt oranges and reds. Romance definitely feels at home here — but it's an understated, cozy feel of romance, not a swanky, dress-to-impress feel. The service was attentive without being overbearing.

On this particular Monday night, Chef Bob was missing and a Chef Jason was in his place, so I can't speak for Chef Bob's culinary skill, unfortunately. But both Chefs Jason and David put up a good fight, to our great enjoyment. For starters, my fellow foodie and I had seared scallops with hand-cut jalapeno fettuccine, beautifully split onto two plates, from Chef David. Though both the scallops and pasta were perfect in texture, the flavor of lime was a bit overpowering. I was also expecting some kind of kick from the jalapeno and green peppers, but the spiciness was equal to that of very mild salsa. Chef Jason's first course was crab beignets with garlic remoulade and a spicy tomato shooter. Again, the textures were perfect, but the flavor a tad off: the crab filling was exquisitely smooth and the pastry delicate, but taste-wise I found it too bland and unremarkable, even with the odd Bloody-Mary-like shooter. The score: Chef David 1, Jason 0.

For the second course, I was blown away

by Chef David's dish — gorgeously seared sesame tuna on a cushion of sushi rice, with Chinese black beans, PEI mussels, and asparagus in a heavenly pool of beurre blanc. If I wanted to be super-critical, I could say that the tuna had the tiniest hint of dryness at some parts and that the flavor of the black beans was almost too strong. But for me, this was near perfection. I felt bad for Chef Jason, who would have to follow. He presented a sizeable grilled pork chop marinated in miso, toasted peanuts, yellow curry potatoes, and cucumber relish. (He was also at a disadvantage because I admittedly have a seafood bias — unless it's a really good steak.) The meat was too tough at the edges for my liking, and the East Asian and Indian flavors remained separate instead of a fusion. It was an easy victory for Chef David. The score: 2-0.

Because I don't have the biggest sweet tooth, I tend to weigh presentation and originality almost as much as taste when it comes to dessert. With that in mind, dessert, Chef David's chocolate layer cake and Chef Jason's duo of profiterole, was somewhat of a letdown on both sides. The layer cake, adorned with pineapple marmalade and pineapple sorbet, was mediocre, and the tartness of the marmalade was not quite balanced by the light sorbet.

I enjoyed the profiteroles more — the pastry shells filled with chocolate and the strawberry ice cream were delightfully crisp. Though not spectacular, I will say that we finished all of it. The score: 2-1.

Verdict: Chef David had a clear win. (You think you had the play-by-play, but I actually kept a numerical point system much more detailed than I would like to admit, mostly for my own entertainment.) In this day and age when I oftentimes pay more only to get less in high-end dining, I would definitely come back to Sibling Rivalry again for a fun, satisfying meal. And yes, I recommend it as a solid option for Valentine's Day (or your special occasion of choice).

Know before you go: "Fight Night" is only on Monday. If you decide to partake in Fight Night — which I whole-heartedly recommend for the value — make sure to have plenty of time (and an empty stomach) to really enjoy your meal.

Good for: food enthusiasts, romantic dinner for two, Iron Chef wannabe-judges (oh... is that just me?)

Bad for: people in a rush, vegetarians who like lots of options.

### Staff Picks

**Maggie Liu**  
*Film* — *Coraline* (PG)  
(in theaters today)

Based on the original children's book by Neil Gaiman, *Coraline* is a psychedelic trip to a nightmarish world. Coraline Jones (voiced by Dakota Fanning) is a bored little girl who discovers a secret door that leads to an alternate universe that parallels her own. An animated film that reeks of Tim Burton influences, parents with buttons for eyes, and darkly funny situations, *Coraline* is perfect for fans of dark fairytales.

**S. Balaji Mani**  
*Photography* — "Ports and Ships"  
"Ports and Ships," a collection of photographs taken by Andrea Frank, opens Tuesday, February 10 at the MIT Compton Gallery, room 10-150. Frank captures beautiful vessels, documenting the key players in a global network of trade and cargo shipping. Portraying viewpoints and locations hidden from plain sight, these photographs offer a honest look at one of our oldest methods of transportation, upon which we still rely heavily.

## Contra Dance for PE credit

**Live folk music!**  
**Twirl your partner, and everyone else's!**

Every Tuesday through March 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Class 8:00 – 9:30 pm, dancing to 10:30.

Feb 10	Lobdell	Nor'easter
Feb 17	Lobdell	Dandelion Wine
Feb 24	W20-491	Cathy Mason & Friends

No partner or experience necessary.  
All are welcome, whether taking the class or not.

**International Folk Dancing** (Balkan and more)  
Sundays 8-11 pm, W20 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> floor

**Israeli Dancing**  
Wednesdays 8-11 pm, W20 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> floor  
Beginner's classes at 7:30 pm:  
Jan 28 in W20-491, Feb 4 in W20-407

FREE for MIT students.  
MIT Folk Dance Club <http://mit.edu/fdc>

MIT Tae Kwon Do Club

All Levels Welcome

No Previous Experience Necessary

<http://web.mit.edu/tkd>

MWF 7:15-9:15pm

Exercise Room

2nd Floor

duPont Gym



## TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATE INTERNSHIPS

Resume Drop Deadline - 2/10

BRIDGEWATER ASSOCIATES, INC. IS AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

**WE need  
COURSE 6  
interns  
to make us**

software that lets us visualize gigabytes of up-to-the-minute data so that we can better understand how a rally in Colombian bonds affects the price of

**coffee**



# Dramashop Presents

## Julius Caesar

### In Modern Style

The Shakespearean play *Julius Caesar* will be performed by MIT Dramashop on Feb. 5-7 and 12-14 at 8 p.m. in Kresge Little Theater. The show features a modern interpretation of the original play in contemporary dress.

(clockwise from top right)  
Julius Caesar (front right: Steve Barkhimer) and Mark Antony (front left: Sean P. Faulk '11) discuss Cassius' character. Titinius (back left: Prannay Budhraj '10), Trebonius (back center: Skylar W. Desa '10), Portia (back left: Grace M. Kane '11), and Calpurnia (far left: Hanna S. Kuznetsov '09) wait patiently for Caesar.

The Senate (from left to right: Travis S. Newsad '10, Bryan C. Hernandez '09, Prannay Budhraj '10) kneels to Caesar (Steve Barkhimer).

debates going to the Senate with Calpurnia (left: Hanna S. Kuznetsov '09) and Decius Brutus (right: David A. Brescia '10), after receiving ominous news from Calpurnia.

The conspirators (left to right: David A. Brescia '10, Skylar W. Desa '10, Yoni Gray '10, Prannay Budhraj '10, Mia A. Shandell '10, Bryan C. Hernandez '09, and Travis S. Newsad '10) contemplate their actions.

Titinius (left: Prannay Budhraj '10), Octavius (center left: Max Goldman G), Cassius (center right: Bryan C. Hernandez '09), and Brutus (right: Travis S. Newsad '10) prepare for battle.

Mark Antony (Sean P. Faulk '11) mourns the loss of a friend.

Julius Caesar (center: Steve Barkhimer)

Photography by William Yee





## Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo



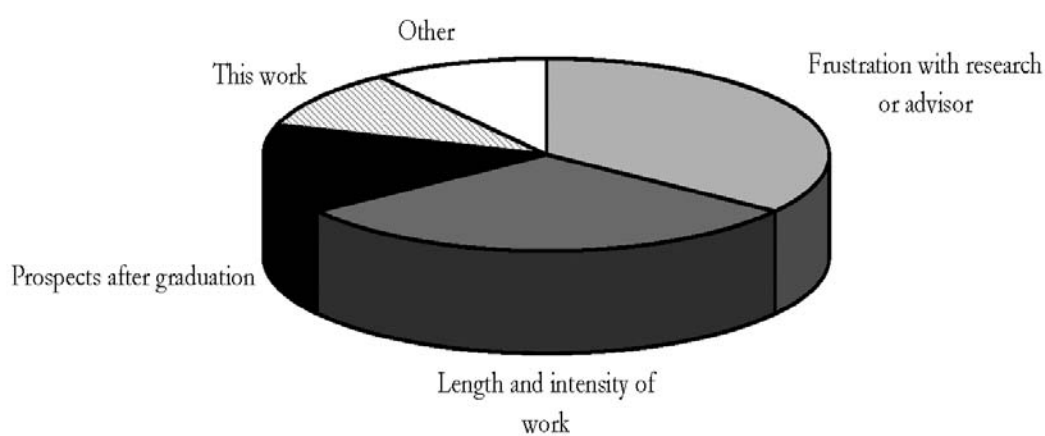
## The Daily Blunderbuss

by Ben Peters



## Pseudoscience

by Daniel Klein-Marcuschamer



**Figure 48.** The pie chart shows the sources of inspiration for “PhD comics” by Cham J., *et al.* As suggested by the chart, there are three main causes for discomfort and stress during a PhD, which in turn serve as the basis for the aforementioned comic strip. Recently, the number of issues based on graphic representations similar to those hereby presented has grown significantly, giving rise to the fourth category proposed by the pie chart. The authors are grateful to Cham *et al.* for referencing this work in their publications. (Visit <http://pseudocomic.blogspot.com> for more Pseudoscience)

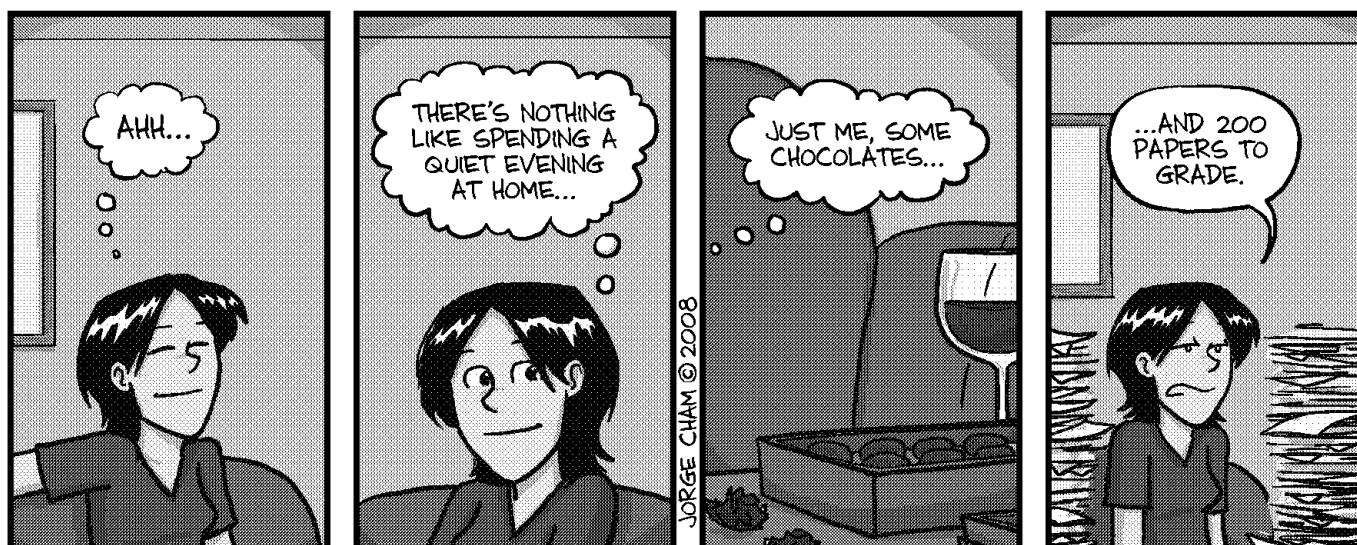
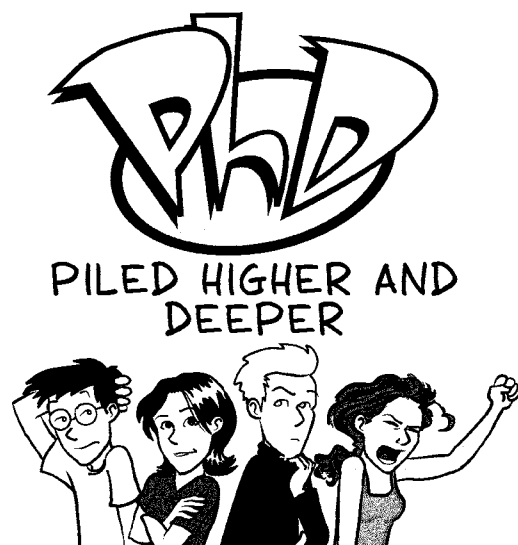
## su | do | ku

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.  
Solution on page 13.

© Puzzles by Pappocom

		3						
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2						7		5
	5				4	9		
7			6		1			3
		9	3				8	
4		5						8
	6	7	1					
						1		

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>





Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 13

- ACROSS

1 Space Needle city

8 Birthplace of Simon Bolivar

15 Breathed out

16 City on San Francisco Bay

17 Perpetual

18 Tenor Pavarotti

19 Off-key

21 Ethical Culture Movement's founder

22 Natural metallic sulfide minerals

25 PC maker

26 Shoots wide

30 Smallest part of a buck

31 Dent or corn starter?

32 Opposers

33 Reverses a deletion
- DOWN

34 Tiriac of tennis

35 Slanted type: abbr.

36 Needs braces?

37 Dunce cap shape

38 Lon of Cambodia

39 Outer garments

40 Incomes from property

41 Ga. neighbor

42 Present starter?

43 Intuits

44 Std.

45 Fastens buckles again

47 Medieval suit

49 Cover with an ice mass

54 Posted leaflets

57 "In Praise of Folly" writer

58 Lures

59 Dependent

60 Loud speaker

61 Ringlets
- 23 Second decade

24 Hobbit allies

26 Large, powerful computers

27 Narrow-minded

28 Cavern-floor buildup

29 RSVP part

33 Penn and Young

36 Togo's capital

37 10 decades

39 Make right

40 Change dimensions

43 More meager

46 All ears

48 Lena of "Alias"

50 Wife of Osiris

51 Amo, \_\_, amat...

52 Bring into harmony

53 Superlative endings

55 Classic car

56 Lith. or Azer., once

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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58								59						
60								61						

# Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Police between Oct. 24, 2008 and Jan. 15, 2009. This summary does not include incidents such as false alarms, general service calls, or medical shuttles.

- Oct. 24:

M32 (32 Vassar St.), 9:58 a.m., Larceny of pocketbook and contents.  
Bunker Hill St., 1:34 p.m., Patrick McGonagle of 87 Elm St. Charlestown, MA taken into custody and served warrant for arrest.  
M42 (59 Vassar St.), 2:31 p.m., White powder substance on vehicle parked in rear of building.  
W31 (120 Mass. Ave.), 4:05 p.m., Laptop stolen.
- Oct. 25:

M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 6:37 p.m., Larceny of laptop.
- Oct. 26:

E2 (70 Amherst. St.), 6:26 a.m., Suspicious activity in Senior House.  
W85 (291 Vassar St.), 7:05 p.m., Bike stolen from outside apartment.
- Oct. 27:

SC (532 Beacon St.), 12:19 a.m., Past larceny of wallet and contents from room.  
M46 (46 Vassar St.), 11:59 a.m., Stata Officer responds to a report of past larceny of cosmetic bag.  
M16 (21 Rear Ames St.), 12:26 a.m., Report of harassment.  
E15 (20 Ames St.), 6:36 p.m., A suspicious male at the E15 construction area.
- Oct. 28:

70 Amherst. St., 7:23 p.m., News crews harassing people as they enter the building. All news crews were advised to stay off MIT property.
- Oct. 29:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 7:53 p.m., Suspicious female looking through people’s bags in Lobdell. Responding person located and issued trespass notice.
- Oct. 30:

W89 (291 Vassar St.), 4:22 p.m., Larceny of a laptop.  
M46 (46 Vassar St.), 7:30 p.m., Bike stolen.  
M37 (70 Vassar St.), 7:45 p.m., Bike stolen.
- Oct. 31:

M3 (33 Mass. Ave.), 3:30 a.m., Arrest of Shaunalynn Duffy, 256 Brookline St., Cambridge, MA. Taken into custody for breaking and entering.  
NW86 (70 Pacific St.), 10:01 a.m., Past fraud by check report.
- Nov. 3:

M33 (125 Mass. Ave.), 12:43 p.m., Larceny of laptop computer.  
M68 (31 Ames St.), 9:46 p.m., Custodial team room was broken into.
- Nov. 4:

M46 (46 Vassar St.), 2:21 p.m., Larceny of wallet from office.  
M5 (77 Mass. Ave.), 7:24 p.m., Wallet stolen from backpack.  
139 Mass. Ave., 10:24 p.m., Vehicle broken into, stereo stolen at the pay lot.
- Nov. 6:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 12:29 p.m., Laptop computer stolen.
- Nov. 7:

E15 (20 Ames St.), 1:16 p.m., Larceny of construction equipment.
- Nov. 11:

NW10 (143 Albany St.), 12:40 p.m., Reporting person received a package in mail he did not order.
- Nov. 12:

E19 (400 Main St.), 1:51 p.m., Larceny of laptop computer.
- Nov. 13:

M7 (77 Mass. Ave.), 12:29 p.m., Larceny of bicycle from bike rack.  
NW35 (235 Albany St.), 6:24 p.m., Laptop stolen from file cabinet.
- Nov. 14:

M10 (122 Memorial Dr.), 1:36 a.m., Larceny of prescription medications from lunch bag.  
W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 7:21 a.m., Larceny of wallet.
- Nov. 17:

WW15 (350 Brookline St.), 7:28 a.m., Attempted larceny of a vehicle. Door lock and steering column broken.  
W79 (229 Vassar St.), 3:54 p.m., Money taken from a safe in office.
- Nov. 18:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 2:19 a.m., Homeless person, Adrian Smith of 37 Kingsdale St., Roxbury Mass. arrested for trespassing after notice. Disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.
- Nov. 19:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 2:35 p.m., Larceny of backpack. Arrested suspect with stolen backpack.  
M46 (46 Vassar St.), 10:07 p.m., MIT units assist Cambridge Police with a suspect of an indecent assault. Person taken into custody by Cambridge Police.
- Nov. 20:

NW86 (70 Pacific St.), 10:41 p.m., Wallet taken in an unarmed robbery.
- Nov. 30:

E2 (70 Amherst St.), 7:46 p.m., Room was closed but unlocked and person entered and stole a laptop.
- Dec. 1:

M4 (182 Rear Memorial Dr.), 9:20 a.m., Larceny of computer parts.  
M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 9:57 a.m., Donnel Sewell, 54, of North Main Street, Brockton arrested for trespass in library after notice.  
Ford Lot, 11:37 a.m., Tool bag stolen from truck.  
W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 12:54 p.m., Left laptop on bench and when she came back it was gone.  
West Garage, 2:48 p.m., Damage to motor vehicle while parked in West Garage.
- Dec. 2:

M68 (31 Ames St.), 3:28 p.m., Person assaulted and backpack taken. Bulletin issued — no description of suspect.
- Dec. 4:

NW17 (175 Albany St.), 12:58 a.m., Two individuals in rear of building taken into custody on an outstanding warrant: Joseph Louge of 240 Albany St., Cambridge.  
W4 (320 Memorial Dr.), 4:11 p.m., Possible identity theft.
- Dec. 5:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 12:36 p.m., Wallet stolen.  
M34 (50 Vassar St.), 10:17 p.m., Larceny of laptop.
- Dec. 8:

M7 (77 Mass. Ave.), 11:33 a.m., Larceny of bicycle.  
W11 (46 Mass. Ave.), 5:19 p.m., Cello was stolen.
- Dec. 11:

M38 (50 Vassar St.), 2:19 a.m., Damage to wall and chairs.  
M68 (31 Ames St.), 7:57 a.m., Upon person’s arrival, found door open and cash drawer and money gone.
- Dec. 12:

W7 (362 Memorial Dr.), 5:18 p.m., Larceny of a wallet.
- Dec. 13:

E51 (70 Memorial Dr.), 9:47 p.m., Laptop stolen.
- Dec. 14:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 8:20 p.m., Mountain bike stolen.
- Dec. 15:

NE48 (700 Tech Square), 1:34 p.m., Harassing mail received.  
M6 (182 Rear Memorial Dr.), 2:55 p.m., Laptop stolen from unlocked office area.
- Dec. 16:

W61 (450 Memorial Dr.), 7:45 a.m., Vehicle was broken into on Fowler St. Unknown if anything stolen.  
E51 (70 Memorial Dr.), 8:28 a.m., Larceny of backpack containing laptop.  
M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 2:39 p.m., Larceny of wallet from library.  
68 (31 Ames St.), 8:26 p.m., Cell phone stolen.  
W61 (450 Memorial Dr.), 11:55 p.m., Vehicle broken into and GPS stolen while parked on Fowler St.
- Dec. 17:

E17 (40 Ames St.), 11:14 a.m., Unforced entry to a refrigeration area.
- Dec. 19:

M68 (Vassar St.), 1:59 p.m., Credit card stolen.
- Dec. 20:

Westgate Lot, 1:54 p.m., Damage to motor vehicle while parked.  
Memorial Dr., 3:28 p.m., Jie Cheng of 540 Memorial Dr. arrested for domestic disturbance.
- Dec. 21:

NW35 (235 Albany St.), 9:27 p.m., Larceny of cash from front desk.
- Dec. 23:

N4 (32 Albany St.), 12:13 a.m., Past Breaking & Entering into motor vehicle.
- Dec. 24:

N52 (265 Mass. Ave.), 8:08 a.m., Malicious damage to MIT vehicle.
- Dec. 27:

W84 (550 Memorial Dr.), 11:44 a.m., Passenger windows smashed, items taken from vehicle parked on Audrey St.
- Dec. 30:

M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 1:48 p.m., Larceny of bicycle.  
M62 (21 Ames St.), 3:28 p.m., Larceny of laptop from lounge area.
- Dec. 31:

W89 (291 Vassar St.), 4:50 p.m., Wallet stolen from gym area.
- Jan. 5:

526 Beacon St., 11:26 a.m., TV stolen.  
M32 (32 Vassar St.), 5:52 p.m., Computer headphones stolen.
- Jan. 6:

W35 (100 Vassar St.), 1:36 p.m., TV stolen.
- Jan. 7:

W32 (Vassar St.), 8:21 a.m., Larceny of ID from locker room.  
W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 3:56 p.m., Artwork stolen.
- Jan. 12:

E19 (400 Main St.), 4:10 p.m., Package stolen from mail room.
- Jan. 13:

W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 10:06 a.m., Larceny of cash.  
M1 (33 Mass. Ave.), 12:39 p.m., Larceny of money.  
E40 (1 Amherst St.), 2:28 p.m., Camcorder stolen from office.  
M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 3:25 p.m., Backpack and coat stolen from library.
- Jan. 15:

M4 (182 Rear Memorial Dr.), 9:28 a.m., Larceny of building materials.

# ATO Brothers Still Have Not Returned To Dorm Row House

ATO, from Page 1

of housing for the specific dorm they are assigned.

There have been “no specific issues, besides the discomfort that comes with crowding,” said Kristen Felch ’09, president of MacGregor last semester.

“We’ve all made friends on our floors,” added Chisoanya O. Ibegbu ’09, current president of ATO. “Things have been fine. We haven’t had any incidents.”

ATO was included as a part of the MacGregor community during its stay, said Professor Munther A. Dahleh, MacGregor housemaster. Study breaks held early on in fall term were held to “facilitate interactions between ATOs and MacGregor students,” and, aside from the loss of lounge space, MacGregor resources were not affected.

Felch said that the extra rent paid by ATO allowed MacGregor to accommodate them during dorm events.

ATO has been periodically holding its own meetings and dinners in MacGregor and has tried to retain its sense of identity despite the lack of a house.

“Even though we’re all in the same building, we still don’t see each other that much since we’re still spread out, but we still try to do as much as we can to keep the brotherhood aspect strong,” said DeRon

M. Brown ’10, incoming president of ATO.

Since ATO finds itself even more splintered in the spring than in the fall, brotherhood will be a particular focus for the fraternity this term.

“We had just been holding on, thinking that we would ride out the storm for a while, and then bring back the brotherhood aspect once in the house,” said Ibegbu. “Now that we see it’s going to be an extended period, we’re going to attack it more and use more of our funding within the house, such as for brotherhood retreats, dinners outside of the house, and events exclusively for us.”

Ibegbu expressed no hard feelings towards MacGregor and was thankful for the dorm’s generosity.

“[MacGregor] compromised with us that we would only be here one term, and now it’s just our time to leave,” he said.

Although ATO originally planned to move back to their house in October, completion of the repairs was delayed due to insurance negotiations. The damage was caused by a pipe leak in the fifth floor bathroom over the summer, which resulted in extensive water damage to the house. The damage was discovered when the water tripped a fire alarm.

The Delta Kappa Epsilon pipe burst over winter break was unrelated to the ATO incident, as the houses are not connected, and was caused by a frozen pipe.

# Proportion of African-American Students Who Pass A.P. Exams Low

By Tamar Lewin  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

More than 15 percent of the three million students who graduated from public high schools last year passed at least one Advanced Placement exam, the College Board said Wednesday, but African-American students were still far less likely to have passed, or to even have taken, an A.P. exam than white, Hispanic or Asian students.

In its fifth annual report on its A.P. program, the College Board said the program was growing steadily. More than 460,000 students, or 15.2 percent, passed an A.P. exam last year, compared with 14.1 percent in 2007 and 12.2 percent five years ago.

But the program is not spreading evenly across the nation. In Mississippi and Louisiana, fewer than 4 percent of high school graduates passed an A.P. exam last year, and in 17 other states, fewer than 10 percent passed one.

At the other end of the spectrum, in Maryland and New York, the states with the most active Advanced Placement programs, more than 23 percent of high school graduates passed an exam. And California, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Virginia also had at least one in five graduates pass an A.P. exam last year.

The A.P. program offers high school students the chance to do college-level work in dozens of subjects and, if they pass the exams, to receive college credit at many universities. The exams are marked on a scale of one to five, with a three needed to pass.

But as in most aspects of American education, troubling ethnic gaps

remain. African-Americans are seriously underrepresented in the A.P. program, and no state has yet closed that gap, said Gaston Caperton, the president of the College Board.

While 14 percent of last year’s high school graduates were black, they made up only 8 percent of those taking A.P. exams — and only 4 percent of those with passing scores. White students, at 63 percent of graduates, and Hispanics, at 15 percent, were nearly proportionately represented in the A.P. population. Asian students were overrepresented, making up 5 percent of graduates, but 10 percent of those taking A.P. exams.

Low-income students made up 17 percent of those who took A.P. exams last year, up from 16.2 percent in 2007, the report said.

This year, given the recession, Mr. Caperton stressed the economic benefits of the program.

“In these times of economic distress, as family budgets are squeezed and financial aid resources are spread thin, rigorous courses like A.P. that prepare students for the demands of college and foster an increased likelihood of on-time graduation can be a very valuable resource for families,” he said.

With a minority graduating from college in four years, A.P. credits can cut college costs by bolstering on-time graduation. For an out-of-state student at a public four-year university, the extra cost of taking six years to complete an undergraduate degree averages more than \$58,000, the College Board said, while even five years for an in-state student costs an extra \$18,000.

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*join@the-tech.mit.edu*



Bartolotta Passes on High-Paying Jobs to Play Pro Basketball

Faculty Challenge Science, Math, And Engineering GIR Modifications

Bartolotta, from Page 1

School in Littleton, Colo., where he drew recruitment attention from Division II schools and a handful of Ivy League colleges. But it was M.I.T. that pursued him the hardest. Anderson tried to sell him on the school's academic excellence, but Bartolotta could not get over the stereotype of an M.I.T. student.

"There was no way I was going to go to there," Bartolotta said. "I thought only nerds went to M.I.T. I didn't think they could possibly play basketball."

But when the Ivy League schools hesitated to make an offer, Bartolotta's parents told him to keep an open mind about M.I.T. Bartolotta did some research on the program, saw some familiar names on the roster, top players he had played against in high school. Bartolotta also realized he would play right away as a freshman, so he decided to bring his skills to Cambridge, Mass.

An instant success, he was named conference Rookie of the Year in 2006 and has improved every season since. He is the leading scorer in M.I.T. history with more than 2,000 career points. He scored 32 points against Yale in the Engineers' only meeting this season against a Division I opponent.

He has done it while juggling the academic demands facing all M.I.T. students. Bartolotta said he is far from the smartest student at M.I.T.,

particularly in his physics courses.

"Some of these kids are off-the-charts smart," he said.

But he compensates by putting in as many hours as it takes to succeed in the classroom.

"Jimmy goes after his passions in the classroom with the same dedication and drive that he has on the basketball court," Anderson said. "Anything he puts his mind to, he works his tail off. If Jimmy is a genius, he's the hardest working genius I have ever seen."

Bartolotta said M.I.T. students with good grades often command six-figure jobs after graduating. But Bartolotta wants to keep playing basketball, even if it means making less than many of his friends. The N.B.A. isn't a realistic goal, he said, but playing in Italy, Spain or Germany is.

"Getting a six-figure contract overseas is not going to be easy, especially for a Division III, M.I.T. player," he said. "Financially, I could start my career in the real world and be in a better financial situation. If I wanted to play the percentages, I'd be going into the real world. I love playing basketball and the camaraderie of being on a team, and I don't want that to stop. Money is real. I understand that. But, if I have to, I think there will always be other jobs out there for me."

In the meantime, Bartolotta hopes to carry M.I.T. to a postseason tournament bid and then find out where the market for basketball geniuses takes him.

GIRs, from Page 1

of the mistake in an e-mail sent early Thursday morning that was signed by President Susan J. Hockfield, Sanyal, Associate Chair of the Faculty Melissa Nobles, and Secretary of the Faculty Seth Teller. Professors Robert P. Redwine and Charles H. Stewart, who first brought forth the motion, "intend to consult with voices on both sides of [the] vote and with Institute leadership about the most appropriate next steps," according to the message.

Redwine and Stewart, co-chairs of the Educational Commons Subcommittee of the Committee on the Undergraduate Program, the group that developed the GIR plan, will meet this morning with ECS to discuss how to move forward. At the moment, said Redwine, no further actions have been decided.

Many faculty expressed their support for the motion at the meeting, including Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD '80, citing the increased flexibility and possibility for innovation that the modifications to the SME core would provide. The change in governance would also facilitate the introduction of new flavors of the core subjects and allow for more interdisciplinary courses to be developed.

Lingering concerns

The ECS spent a year and a half formulating a plan that would incorporate the entire faculty's opinions and would earn broad support when put to vote. But, from discussion that took place at the faculty meeting, it was clear that many professors' concerns lingered.

Those voicing opposition to the

GIRs fell mostly into two camps: those who believed that the changes proposed were not innovative or reformative enough to be worthwhile, and those who thought that the motion would change the GIRs too much, needlessly modifying a system that appears to be working already.

Objections were also raised regarding the committee-based governance system that would be introduced to support the development of new classes satisfying the science, math, and engineering GIRs.

Professor Arthur P. Mattuck, who attended the meeting, wrote in an e-mail that "what's in the science core, who teaches it, and who decides these things [is at] the heart of the controversy." He noted that many faculty were asking, "Is change being proposed just for the sake of change, or is something seriously wrong that needs fixing?"

Mattuck wrote that many in the School of Science were concerned that the proposal would move governing authority from the individual science departments, which have done a good job managing the current GIRs they teach, to committees with representatives from other departments.

Professor Keith A. Nelson echoed this sentiment in a statement at the faculty meeting: "I don't see a compelling reason to change the governance of the [science core] courses." He argued that "The current departments are able to innovate ... The curriculum has evolved even though course titles have not," and related his incorporation of a discussion about scanning tunneling microscopes, a technology invented 20 years ago, into 5.111 (Introduction to Chemistry).

Although the motion, if enacted, would not have created any additional requirements at this time, some professors, including bioengineering professor Linda G. Griffith, voiced concerns about the pilot design classes. She said that they could, in the future, add to the requirements students feel pressured to complete in their freshman year.

Additional requirements, according to Griffith, could disadvantage students who come to MIT with little Advanced Placement or other credit, restricting their opportunities to explore their interests in freshman year.

Next steps

While the ECS has yet to decide specific steps for moving forward, chairs Redwine and Stewart have begun to assess what issues need to be discussed. They plan to work with both faculty who supported the original motion as well as those who voiced a whole range of criticisms.

"We need to find another way to ensure the dynamism of the core," said Stewart. "We need to put our thinking caps back on and see if there are better ideas out there." He said they will continue to search for ideas that would earn broad support from the faculty.

"An option that is not available is doing nothing, because there is undoubtedly widespread support already for many elements of the proposal," Stewart said.

Though the motion was originally intended to pass as a package, it has been proposed that parts of the plan, such as the widely-supported simplified HASS system, might be approved and enacted separately.

Reactions from other faculty members to the split vote vary. Some voiced concern that the Institute seemed to be struggling to move forward and innovate. Many recall an earlier committee, the Task Force on the Undergraduate Educational Commons, that preceded the ECS and developed its own proposal to reform the GIRs that also failed to win approval from the faculty.

Yossi Sheffi, professor and director of the Engineering Systems Division, said he worried about how difficult it seemed for the faculty to come to any decisions. He warned that much more difficult decisions lay ahead in light of the current financial crisis.

Stewart chose to be more optimistic. "I think the positive way of seeing it is that we have made progress over the past couple of years," he said. Overall, this proposal contained some more popular elements and gained more support than the Task Force's proposal, he said. "Perhaps we haven't gotten it quite right yet, but we are further along the road than we were two years ago."

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Solution to Crossword

from page 11

S	E	A	T	T	L	E	C	A	R	A	C	A	S
E	X	P	I	R	E	D	F	R	E	M	O	N	T
A	G	E	L	O	N	G	L	U	C	I	A	N	O
M	I	S	T	U	N	E	D	A	D	L	E	R	
			P	Y	R	I	T	E	S		I	B	M
M	I	S	S	E	S		C	E	N	T		T	R
A	N	T	I	S		S	T	E	T	S		I	O
I	T	A	L		L	E	A	N	S		C	O	N
N	O	L		C	O	A	T	S		R	E	N	T
F	L	A		O	M	N	I		S	E	N	S	E
R	E	G		R	E	S	N	A	P	S			
A	R	M	O	R			G	L	A	C	I	A	T
M	A	I	L	E	R	S		E	R	A	S	M	U
E	N	T	I	C	E	S		R	E	L	I	A	N
S	T	E	N	T	O	R		T	R	E	S	S	E

Solution to Sudoku

from page 10

1	7	3	5	4	2	8	6	9
5	9	6	7	3	8	4	1	2
2	8	4	9	1	6	7	3	5
3	5	1	8	2	4	9	7	6
7	2	8	6	9	1	5	4	3
6	4	9	3	5	7	2	8	1
4	1	5	2	7	3	6	9	8
9	6	7	1	8	5	3	2	4
8	3	2	4	6	9	1	5	7



JESSICA LIN—THE TECH

Conducted by Professor Evan Ziporyn, (left to right) Tanya S. Goldhaber '11, Victoria Y. Cheng, Ari Le G, and Alan F. Delespinasse '94 perform with guitarist Bryce Dessner of the band The National during a concert on Thursday, Jan. 29 in the Broad Institute Auditorium. The concert, titled "Darkness Visible," featured music composed by Bryce Dessner and art by Matthew Ritchie.

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Sports Shorts, from Page 16

## UMass Boston Snaps MIT Women's Ice Hockey Win Streak

The MIT women's ice hockey team saw its program-record four game winning streak snapped Tuesday night, falling to UMass Boston, 4-1, in ECAC East action.

Emily Brienzo opened the scoring midway through the first with her second of the season, from Rachel Sousa and Katie Kirwan. The goal was the first allowed by MIT goaltender Rachel A. Bowens-Rubin '11 in over 130 minutes after registering shutouts in her last two outings. Kelly Gillis added an unassisted tally as the period wound down, splitting a pair of defenders on a tremendous individual effort.

Lauren Duran's first goal of the night came on a power-play chance late in the second stanza as she pushed a rebound past Bowens-Rubin. Hannah Davis and Maria Nasta were credited with assists on the play.

Lauren A. Kazmierski '11 would give the home crowd something to cheer for early in the final period, taking a pass from Connie C. Lu '11 to put the Engineers on the board. However, Duran (from Nasta and Rachel Sousa) responded with her second marker of the game almost three minutes later, to push the lead back to three.

Bowens-Rubin made 34 saves in the losing effort. UMass-Boston goaltender Leah Hallet stopped 17 of 18 shots to earn her fifth win of the year.

The two teams will return to the ice to face off again in just three days, as the Beacons host the Engineers on Friday, February 6 at 4:00 p.m.

—Greg McKeever, DAPER Staff

Scoreboard, from Page 16

Women's Swimming	
Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009	
MIT (4-4)	131
Amherst College (6-1)	160

Men's Swimming	
Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009	
MIT (8-0)	172
Amherst College (6-1)	119

Men's Volleyball	
Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009	
MIT (4-6)	1
Newbury College	3

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SPORTS

Steelers Top Cardinals in Super Bowl, Win Sixth Championship

By David Zhu  
SPORTS EDITOR

Last Sunday, the Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Arizona Cardinals 27-23 in Super Bowl XLIII, held

Column

at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa Bay, to win their sixth title in franchise history. Although the result was anything but unexpected — with Pittsburgh being the heavy favorites to win — the final score does not reveal the suspense, dramatic turns, and big plays throughout the three hour, thirty-eight minute masterpiece.

Early in the game, the Steelers appeared to be in complete control, jumping out to 10-0 lead. Their defense was able to control Arizona's potent passing game. As halftime neared, however, Kurt Warner and the Cardinals had cut the deficit to three points and were poised to take

the lead, with first and goal at the Pittsburgh 1. However, as time expired in the half, Steelers linebacker James Harrison intercepted a pass at the goal line and returned it 100 yards for a Pittsburgh touchdown — the longest play in Super Bowl history.

Pittsburgh kept its momentum going into the second half, extending its lead to 20-3 on a drive which lasted for almost nine minutes and included three huge penalties on Arizona. Once again, it appeared as if the Steelers were well on their way to a sixth Lombardi Trophy.

In the fourth quarter, however, the Cardinals came roaring back with 16 unanswered points, including two Larry Fitzgerald touchdowns (tying Jerry Rice's record of most receiving touchdowns in a single postseason) and a safety. The second Kurt Warner-Larry Fitzgerald score, a 64-yard completion

down the middle with only 2:37 left in the game, gave the Cardinals a 23-20 lead and put them in position to cause one of the biggest upsets in the Super Bowl.

The Steelers were not finished, however. Ben Roethlisberger and company took the ball at their own 22-yard line, and drove to the Arizona 6. On second-and-goal with 35 seconds left, Roethlisberger floated a perfect spiral in the back of the end zone to Santonio Holmes — the game's MVP — who caught the ball outstretched and managed to keep both feet inbounds, giving Pittsburgh a four-point lead.

Although the Cardinals had one last shot to score, the Steelers' lauded defense lived up to its reputation, forcing a Kurt Warner fumble and setting off wild celebrations and frenzied waving of Pittsburgh's "Terrible Towels" throughout the stadium.

Game of the Week

Men's Swimming Ends Its Season Undefeated

By James Kramer  
DAPER STAFF

MIT men's swimming and diving, which is ranked No. 11 in the latest Division III national poll, claimed its first undefeated regular season in program history with a convincing victory at No. 19 Amherst College. Paced by two pool records, the Engineers topped the Lord Jeffs, 172-119, while closing out the regular portion of their slate with an 8-0 record.

Junior Jeffrey Y. Zhou '10 authored a magnificent performance as he swam 51.20 in the 100 fly to break a six-year pool record while securing an NCAA cut. Zhou split 23.57 for the first 50 in holding off rookie teammate Matthew R. Chapa '12, who finished second in 51.67.

Zhou etched his name into the record books for a second time in the 400 free relay. Joining with Luke R. Cummings '10, Peter J. Wellings '09, and Laurent Charpentier '09, the Engineers swam 3:09.43 to set a new facility standard and clinch their unblemished ledger. Adding to his terrific afternoon, Zhou bested Cummings in the 50 free as the duo split 21.38 and 21.53, respectively.

Junior Rastislav Racz '10 continues to battle back into swimming shape, and the team had to be encouraged with his effort on Sunday. Racz swept the 100 and 200 breast stroke, and led an impressive 1-2 finish in the 200 as freshman Alejandro Dos Reis '12 took second in 2:11.00. Racz split 2:10.58 to hold off the charging first-year standout.

Despite finishing second in the 100 fly, Chapa was also outstanding. He netted a dominating win in the 200 fly with a time of 1:55.07, while he out-dueled Amherst freshman Ryan Lichtenfels in the 200 IM. Resulting in the closest race of the meet, Chapa's quick start enabled him to secure the victory in 1:58.50, with Lichtenfels closing in 1:58.51.

Freshman Timothy J. Stumbaugh '12, who led off MIT's winning 200 medley relay, stayed perfect in the 100 back with a winning time of 53.51, although the rookie endured his first defeat of the season in the 200 back despite swimming a season-best 1:56.66.

In another pedestrian performance for Charpentier, the star freestyler swept the 100 and 200 events. Charpentier split 1:43.55 to win the 200 while he edged out Cummings in the 100, 47.05-47.40.

No. 7 Newbury Defeats Men's Volleyball, 3-1

Double-digit attack efforts by Eric R. Reuland '10, T. Scott Pollom '09, Michael Demyttenaere '10, and Garrett L. Winther '11 would not be enough as nationally-ranked No. 7 Newbury College defeated MIT, 30-32, 30-28, 30-18, 30-20, on Tuesday. With the loss, the Engineers' record moved to 4-6 overall and 3-2 in NECVA New England Division action.

Sports Shorts

Pollom posted 12 kills, a .400 hitting percentage, and nine blocks while Reuland notched a team-high 14 kills to go along with 10 digs. Demyttenaere tallied 11 kills, a .368 hitting performance, five blocks, and two aces as Winther contributed 11 kills and seven digs. Philip M. Rogoz '10 amassed 51 assists, 13 digs, and four blocks while David R. Thomas '12 bolstered the Engineers' attack with nine kills. Eugene Jang '09 paced the defense with 16 digs as Jeremy J. Velazquez '12 added 12 of his own.

—Mindy Brauer, DAPER Staff

Water Polo Places Three on ACWPC All-America Team

The Association of Collegiate Water Polo Coaches (ACWPC) announced its 2008 All-America teams on Friday and MIT was honored with three recipients, including Michael R. Smith-Bronstein '09 to the Second Team. Teammates Devin M. Lewis '10 and John V. Preis '11 were named Honorable Mention. The three selections are the most for the Engineers since 2003.

Smith-Bronstein was MIT's leading scorer all season, tallying 58 goals in 26 games to become the Institute's all-time leading scorer. Smith-Bronstein's career total of 184 scores surpasses John H. Rogers's '06 previous record of 174. In addition to the All-America nod, Smith-Bronstein was named to the CWPAA All-North Division First Team as well as the Eastern Championship All-Tournament Team after scoring eight goals at the Championship.

Lewis, a Second-Team pick in 2007, garnered Honorable Mention honors this season. He is MIT's first back-to-back recipient since David D. Lohrey '05 in 2003-04. The junior was second on the team with 47 markers this season and now stands third all-time in scoring at MIT with 147 career goals. Lewis was selected to the All-North Second Team as well as the Division III Eastern All-Tournament Squad earlier in the season.

Preis followed up his breakout rookie season with a solid sophomore campaign in which he was third on the team with 41 goals. The reigning CWPAA Northern Division Rookie of the Year was named to the Division III Eastern All-Tournament First Team while helping the Engineers to a runner-up finish.

—Greg McKeever, DAPER Staff

Sports Shorts, Page 15

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

<b>Friday, Feb. 6, 2009</b>	
Men's and Women's Swimming MIT Invitational	6:30 p.m., Zesiger Center
<b>Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009</b>	
Pistol vs. U.S. Naval Academy	9 a.m., duPont Gymnasium
Track and Field vs. Williams College and U.S. Coast Guard Academy	12 p.m., Johnson Athletic Center
Men's Basketball vs. U.S. Coast Guard Academy	1 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Men's and Women's Swimming MIT Invitational	1 p.m., Zesiger Center
Women's Basketball vs. Clark University	3 p.m., Rockwell Cage
Men's Gymnastics vs. Springfield College	4 p.m., duPont Gymnasium
<b>Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009</b>	
Pistol vs. U.S. Naval Academy	9 a.m., duPont Gymnasium

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SCOREBOARD

<b>Men's Basketball</b>	<b>Women's Fencing</b>
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009</b>	<b>Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009</b>
Springfield College (7-8) 57	Haverford College 10
MIT (15-5) 68	MIT (14-6) 17
	University of Pennsylvania 22
<b>Women's Basketball</b>	MIT (14-7) 5
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009</b>	Princeton University 21
Springfield College (12-8) 76	MIT (14-8) 6
MIT (4-14) 39	New York University 11
	MIT (15-8) 16
<b>Men's Fencing</b>	Duke University 12
<b>Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009</b>	MIT (16-8) 15
Haverford College 11	Yeshiva University 1
MIT (7-10) 16	MIT (17-8) 26
Yeshiva University 2	
MIT (8-10) 25	<b>Men's Ice Hockey</b>
New York University 18	<b>Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009</b>
MIT (8-11) 9	Worcester Polytechnic Institute 2
Princeton University 17	MIT (7-5-1) 9
MIT (8-12) 10	
University of Pennsylvania 16	<b>Women's Ice Hockey</b>
MIT (8-13) 11	<b>Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009</b>
Duke University 18	University of Massachusetts Boston (9-8-2) 4
MIT (8-14) 9	MIT (6-10-1) 1

Scoreboard, Page 15